United Nations A/C.3/58/L.1

General Assembly

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Fifty-eighth session
Third Committee

Organization of the work of the Third Committee

Note by the Secretariat

Allocation of items

1. The agenda items allocated by the General Assembly to the Third Committee are listed in the letter from the President of the Assembly to the Chairperson of the Third Committee (A/C.3/58/1). Background information on those items may be found in the annotations to the agenda (A/58/100 and Add.1).

Programme of work

2. The draft programme of work (see annex) has been prepared bearing in mind paragraph (b) of rule 99 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, the organizational arrangements agreed upon by the Assembly at the outset of its current session (A/58/250), relevant resolutions and decisions adopted by the Assembly on the rationalization of its work and that of the Third Committee, the schedule of related intergovernmental meetings and the availability of documentation, as well as past experience in the utilization of conference services.

Interactive dialogues and debates

3. In accordance with the established practice of the Committee, immediately following the introduction of reports by executive heads and senior members of the Secretariat at the beginning of each debate, time will be set aside for an interactive dialogue between these officials and members of the Committee as part of the formal proceedings. Delegations are invited to participate actively in these dialogues with questions and comments in an unscripted format. They are requested to withhold their prepared statements for the Committee's official debates immediately following the dialogues.

4. Under agenda items 113 (Promotion and protection of the rights of children), 115 (Elimination of racism and racial discrimination), 116 (Right of peoples to self-determination) and 117 (Human rights questions), time will likewise be set aside for dialogues with the special rapporteurs and representatives who will be reporting on their activities.

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5. Under agenda item 117, it should be noted that delegations may make one statement each under sub-items (a) and (d), which are to be discussed separately. Delegations may also make two statements under sub-items 117 (b), (c) and (e), but they should not make two statements on any one of those sub-items.

List of documents

6. Attention is drawn to the note on the status of preparation of documentation submitted under the various agenda items allocated to the Third Committee (A/C.3/58/L.1/Add.1).

Length of statements

7. In accordance with established practice of the Committee, there are time limits on statements on all agenda items. The proposed time limit for statements in the general discussion of the various agenda items is seven minutes for delegations and 15 minutes for representatives of groups of delegations. Secretariat officials will also be limited to seven-minute statements, except when they deliver oral reports. In accordance with the decision of the General Assembly, delegations should exercise their right of reply at the end of the day whenever two meetings have been scheduled for the same day and both meetings are devoted to consideration of the same item. The first statement in exercise of the right of reply may be five minutes, and the second statement should be no longer than three minutes.

Conference facilities and meetings arrangements

8. Unless otherwise specified, meetings will be held at 10 a.m. and 3 p.m. The General Assembly has reminded delegations that punctuality is of the utmost importance for ensuring an effective and orderly organization of work and achieving economies for the United Nations. As decided by the Assembly, the requirement that at least one quarter of the members of the Committee must be present to declare a meeting open and permit the debate to proceed has been waived.

Control and limitation of documentation

9. The Committee's attention is drawn to General Assembly resolution 50/206 C of 23 December 1995 on the control and limitation of documentation. The Secretariat wishes to emphasize, in particular, paragraphs 6, 7 and 8 of that resolution, in which the Assembly requested, inter alia, restraint on the part of members of all intergovernmental bodies in making proposals containing requests for new reports.

Report of the Economic and Social Council

10. The Committee is reminded that, in accordance with a decision of the General Assembly, chapters of the report of the Economic and Social Council (A/58/3) are to be considered in conjunction with documentation under the relevant substantive agenda items, as well as under item 12.

Conclusion of the work of the Committee

11. Bearing in mind the allocation of the number of meetings available to the Third Committee and previous decisions of the General Assembly, the Assembly has set a target date of 21 November for the conclusion of its work.

Annex

Proposed programme of work of the Third Committee

Programme	*Documentation*
Monday, 29 September	
10 a.m.	
Election of the Bureau and organization of work	
Week of 6-10 October	
Monday, 6 October	
10 a.m. and 3 p.m.	
Introductory statements, dialogue with senior Secretariat officials and general discussion of:	
Item 105. Implementation of the outcome of the World Summit for Social Development and of the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly	Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the outcome of the World Summit for Social Development and of the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly (A/58/172) Letter dated 14 July 2003 from Morocco transmitting the final communiqué and declaration adopted at the thirty-fourth meeting of the Group of 77 (A/58/204)
Item 106. Social development, including questions relating to the world social situation and to youth, ageing, disabled persons and the family	Relevant chapter of the report of the Economic and Social Council (A/58/3) Report of the Secretary-General on the review and appraisal of the World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons (A/58/61-E/2003/5) Note by the Secretary-General on the preparations for and observance of the tenth anniversary of the International Year of the Family in 2004 (A/58/67-E/2003/49) Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the World Youth Report 2003 (A/58/79) Report of the Secretary-General promoting youth employment (A/58/229) Report of the Secretary-General on cooperatives in social development (A/58/159) Report on the World Social Situation, 2003 (A/58/153)

Programme	*Documentation*
Item 107. Follow-up to the International Year of Older Persons: Second World Assembly on Ageing	Report of the Secretary-General on the follow-up to the Second World Assembly on Ageing (A/58/160)
1 p.m.	
Closure of the list of speakers on items 105, 106 and 107	
Tuesday, 7 October	
10 a.m. and 3 p.m.	
Items 105, 106 and 107. General discussion (continued)	
Wednesday, 8 October	
10 a.m.	
Items 105, 106 and 107. General discussion (concluded)	
6 p.m.	
Deadline for submission of draft proposals on items 105, 106 and 107	
Thursday, 9 October	
3 p.m.	
Introductory statements, dialogue with senior Secretariat officials and general discussion of:	
Item 108. Crime prevention and criminal justice	Relevant section of the report of the Economic and Social Council, including the programme and final recommendations for the Eleventh United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice (A/58/3) (Suppl. No. 3) Report of the Secretary-General on preventing and combating corrupt practices and transfer of funds of illicit origin and returning such assets to the countries of origin (A/58/125) Report of the Secretary-General on strengthening the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme, in particular its technical cooperation capacity (A/58/222) Report of the Secretary-General on the African Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders (A/58/223)

Programme	*Documentation*
	Report of the Secretary-General on promoting the ratification of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and Protocols thereto (A/58/165)
	Report of the Secretary-General on preparations for the Eleventh United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice (A/58/87-E/2003/82)
	Report of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice on the programme and final recommendations for the Eleventh United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice
	Letter dated 9 July 2003 from the Permanent Representative of Kazakhstan to the United Nations transmitting the text of the joint statement by the heads of State of the members of the Central Asian Cooperation Organization (A/58/131-S/2003/703)
Item 109. International drug control	Relevant chapter of the report of the Economic and Social Council (A/58/3)
	Report of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs on progress achieved in meeting the goals and targets set out in the Political Declaration adopted by the General Assembly and at its twentieth special session: a five-year review (A/58/124)
	Report of the Secretary-General on the quinquennial evaluation of the implementation of the outcome of the twentieth special session of the General Assembly devoted to countering the world drug problem together (A/58/253)

1 p.m.

Closure of list of speakers on items 108 and 109

Friday, 10 October

10 a.m.

Items 108 and 109. General discussion (continued)

Week of 13-17 October

Monday, 13 October

3 p.m.

Items 108 and 109. General discussion (continued)

Programme	*Documentation*
Tuesday, 14 October	
10 a.m. and 3 p.m.	
Items 108 and 109. General discussion (concluded)	
6 p.m.	
Deadline for submission of draft proposals on items 108 and 109	
Wednesday, 15 October	
10 a.m. and 3 p.m.	
Introductory statements, dialogue with senior Secretariat officials and general discussion of:	
Item 110. Advancement of women	Relevant chapter of the report of the Economic and Social Council (A/58/3) Report of the Secretary-General on the improvement of the status of women in the United Nations system (A/58/374) Report of the Secretary-General on traditional or customary practices affecting the health of women and girls (A/58/169) Report of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (A/58/38 (Parts I and II)) (Suppl. No. 38) Report of the Secretary-General on the financial situation of the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women Report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions on the financial situation of the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women Report of the Secretary-General on the improvement of the situation of women in rural areas (A/58/167) Report of the Secretary-General on the improvement of the situation of women in rural areas (A/58/167/Add.1) Report of the Secretary-General on violence against women migrant workers (A/58/161)

Programme	*Documentation*
	Report of the Secretary-General on the status of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (A/58/341)
	Report of the Secretary-General on the future operation and financial situation of the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women
	Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme on the activities of the United Nations Development Fund for Women (A/58/168)
Item 111. Implementation of the outcome of the Fourth World Conference on Women and of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly, entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century"	Relevant chapter of the report of the Economic and Social Council (A/58/3)
	Report of the Secretary-General on the follow-up to and progress in the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the outcome of the twenty-third special session (A/58/166)
1 p.m.	
Closure of list of speakers on items 110 and 111	
Thursday, 16 October	
10 a.m. and 3 p.m.	
Items 110 and 111. General discussion (continued)	
Friday, 17 October	
10 a.m.	
Items 110 and 111. General discussion (concluded)	
6 p.m.	
Deadline for submission of draft proposals on items 110 and 111	
3 p.m.	
Introductory statements, dialogue with senior Secretariat officials and general discussion of:	
Item 113. Promotion and protection of the rights of children	Report of the Secretary-General on the status of the Convention on the Rights of the Child (A/58/282)
	Note by the Secretary-General on the girl child (A/58/329)

Programme	*Documentation*
	Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on the impact of armed conflict on children (A/58/328)

1 p.m.

Closure of list of speakers on items 113

Week of 20-24 October

Monday, 20 October

10 a.m. and 3 p.m.

Item 113. General discussion (continued)

Tuesday, 21 October

10 a.m. and 3 p.m.

Item 113. General discussion (concluded)

6 p.m.

Deadline for submission of draft proposals on item 113

Wednesday, 22 October

10 a.m. and 3 p.m.

Introductory statements, dialogue with senior Secretariat officials and general discussion of:

Item 114. Programme of activities of the International Decade of the World's Indigenous People	Relevant chapters of the report of the Economic and Social Council (A/58/3) Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the annual report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights on the implementation of the programme of activities for the International Decade of the World's Indigenous People (A/58/289)

1 p.m.

Closure of the list of speakers on item 114

Thursday, 23 October

3 p.m.

Item 114. General discussion (concluded)

Programme	*Documentation*
6 p.m.	
Deadline for submission of draft proposals on item 114	
Friday, 24 October	
3 p.m.	
Introductory statements, dialogue with senior Secretariat officials and general discussion of:	
Item 115 (a). Elimination of racism and racial discrimination	Relevant chapter of the report of the Economic and Social Council (including recommendations of the Commission on Human Rights on the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Third Decade (A/58/3) (Suppl. No. 3)
	Report of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination (A/58/18) (Suppl. No. 18)
	Report of the Secretary-General submitted pursuant to General Assembly resolution 57/195 (A/58/80-E/2003/71)
	Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the interim report of the Special Rapporteur on Contemporary Forms of Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance (A/58/313)
Item 115 (b). Comprehensive implementation of and follow-up to the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action	Note by the Secretary-General on the comprehensive implementation of and follow-up to the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action (A/58/331)
	Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights on the comprehensive implementation of and follow-up to the World Conference Against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance (A/58/324)
Item 116. Right of peoples to self-determination	Report of the Secretary-General on the right of peoples to self-determination (A/58/180)
	Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on the use of mercenaries as a means of violating human rights and impeding the exercise of the right of peoples to self-determination (A/58/115)

Programme	*Documentation*

Week of 27-31 October

Monday, 27 October

10 a.m. and 3 p.m.

Items 115 (a) and (b) and 116. General discussion (continued)

1 p.m.

Closure of the list of speakers on items 115 (a) and (b) and 116

Tuesday, 28 October

10 a.m. and 3 p.m.

Items 115 (a) and (b) and 116. General discussion (continued)

Wednesday, 29 October

3 p.m.

Items 115 (a) and (b) and 116. General discussion (continued)

Thursday, 30 October

3 p.m.

Items 115 (a) and (b) and 116. General discussion (continued)

Friday, 31 October

10 a.m.

Items 115 (a) and (b) and 116. General discussion (concluded)

6 p.m.

Deadline for submission of draft proposals on items 115 (a) and (b) and 116

Week of 3-7 November

Monday, 3 November

10 a.m. and 3 p.m.

Introductory statements, dialogue with the senior Secretariat officials and general discussion of:

Programme	*Documentation*
Item 112. Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, questions relating to refugees, returnees and displaced persons and humanitarian questions	Relevant chapter of the report of the Economic and Social Council (A/58/3) Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (A/58/12) (Suppl. No. 12) Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (A/58/12/Add.1) Report of the Secretary-General on assistance to refugees, returnees and displaced persons in Africa (A/58/353) Report of the Secretary-General on Follow-up to the Regional Conference to Address the Problems of Refugees, Displaced Persons, Other Forms of Involuntary Displacement and Returnees in the Countries of the Commonwealth of Independent States and Relevant Neighbouring States (A/58/281) Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees regarding the strengthening of the capacity of the Office to carry out its mandates Report of the Secretary-General on assistance to unaccompanied refugee minors (A/58/299)

1 p.m.

Closure of list of speakers on item 112

Tuesday, 4 November

3 p.m.

Item 112 General discussion (continued)

Wednesday, 5 November

10 a.m. and 3 p.m.

Item 112. (concluded)

6 p.m.

Deadline for submission of draft proposals on item 112

Programme	*Documentation*
Thursday, 6 November	
3 p.m.	
Introductory statements, dialogue with senior Secretariat officials and general discussion of:	
Item 117. Human rights questions	Note by the Secretariat transmitting the report of the Chairpersons of the human rights treaty bodies on their fifteenth meeting, held at Geneva from 23 to 27 June 2003 (A/58/350)
Item 117 (a). Implementation of human rights instruments	Relevant chapter of the report of the Economic and Social Council (A/58/3)
General discussion	Report of the Secretary-General on the status of the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (A/58/326)
	Report of the Secretary-General on the status of the international convention on the protection of all migrant workers and members of their families (A/58/221)
	Report of the Secretary-General on the status of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the Optional Protocols to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (A/58/307)
	Report of the Secretary-General on the status of the International Covenants to Human Rights and Optional Protocols
	Report of the Human Rights Committee (A/58/40) (Suppl. No. 40)
	Report of the Committee against Torture (A/58/44) (Suppl. No. 44)
	Report of the Secretary-General on the status of the United Nations voluntary fund on contemporary forms of slavery (A/58/306)
	Report of the Secretary-General on the status of the convention against torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment

Programme	*Documentation*
	Report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Voluntary Fund for victims of torture (A/58/284)
	Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on the question of torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment (A/58/120)
	Letter dated 13 June 2003 from the Permanent Representative of Liechtenstein to the United Nations transmitting the report of an international meeting of experts on the theme of treaty body reform
1 p.m.	
Closure of the list of speakers for item 117 (a)	
Friday, 7 November	
10 a.m.	
Item 117 (a). General discussion (concluded)	
3 p.m.	
Item 117 (d). Comprehensive implementation of and follow-up to the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action	(No documentation)
General discussion (concluded)	
6 p.m.	
Deadline for submission of draft proposals on item 117 (a)	
Week of 10-14 November	
Monday, 10 November	
10 a.m. and 3 p.m.	
Item 117 (b). Human rights questions, including alternative approaches for improving the effective enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms	Report of the Secretary-General on the effective promotion of the Declaration on the Rights of Persons Belonging to National or Ethnic, Religious and Linguistic Minorities (A/58/255)

Programme	*Documentation*
	Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Ad Hoc Committee on a Comprehensive and Integral International Convention on Protection and Promotion of the Rights and Dignity of Persons with Disabilities (A/58/118 and Corr.1)
	Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on the situation of human rights defenders (A/58/380)
	Report of the Secretary-General on national institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights (A/58/261)
	Report of the Secretary-General on the Khmer Rouge trials
	Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Human Rights in Cambodia (A/58/317)
	Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the interim report by the Special Rapporteur on the right to food (A/58/330)
	Report of the Secretary-General on the role and achievements of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights in assisting the Government and the people of Cambodia in the promotion and protection of human rights (A/58/268)
	Report of the Secretary-General on the right to development (A/58/276)
	Report of the Secretary-General on human rights and unilateral coercive measures (A/58/279)
	Report of the Secretary-General on protecting human rights and fundamental freedoms while countering terrorism (A/58/266)
	Report of the Secretary-General on human rights and mass exoduses (A/58/186)
	Report of the Secretary-General on the progress of efforts to ensure the full recognition and enjoyment of the human rights of persons with disabilities (A/58/181)

Programme	*Documentation*
	Report of the Secretary-General on the progress of efforts to ensure the full recognition and enjoyment of the human rights of persons with disabilities (A/58/181/Add.1)
	Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the interim report of the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on the protection of migrants (A/58/275)
	Report by the representative of the Secretary-General on protection and assistance to internally displaced persons
	Report of the Secretary-General on strengthening United Nations action in the field of human rights through the promotion of international cooperation and the importance of non-selectivity, impartiality and objectivity (A/58/185)
	Report of the Secretary-General on enhancing the effectiveness of the principle of periodic and genuine elections and the promotion of democratization (A/58/212)
	Report of the Secretary-General on globalization and its impact on the full enjoyment of all human rights (A/58/257)
	Report of the Secretary-General on human rights education (A/58/318)
	Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the interim report of the Special Rapporteur on freedom of religion or belief (A/58/296)
	Report of the Secretary-General on human rights and cultural diversity (A/58/309)
	Report of the Secretary-General on the protection of migrants (A/58/121)
Item 117 (c). Human rights situations and reports of special rapporteurs and representatives	Note by the Secretary-General on the human rights situation of the Lebanese detainees in Israel (A/58/218)
	Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on the situation of human rights in the Democratic Republic of the Congo

Programme	*Documentation*
	Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the interim report of the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on the situation of human rights in Iraq
	Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the interim report of the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on the situation of human rights in Myanmar (A/58/219)
	Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the updates by the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights of his reports on the situation of human rights in Afghanistan (A/58/334)
	Report of the Secretary-General on the situation of human rights in Myanmar (A/58/325)
	Note by Secretary-General transmitting the report of the mission of the Special Rapporteurs of the Commission on Human Rights on the situation of human rights in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, and on extrajudicial, summary and arbitrary executions and a member of the Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances (A/58/127)
	Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on the right of everyone to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health
	Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on the situation of human rights in Burundi
	Report of the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on violence against women on the situation of women in Afghanistan
	Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights on the human rights situation in Sierra Leone (A/58/379)

Programme	*Documentation*
Item 117 (d). Comprehensive implementation of and follow-up to the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action	No advance documentation.
Item 117 (e). Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights	Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (A/58/36) (Suppl. No. 36)
Dialogue with the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights	
6 p.m.	
Deadline for submission of draft proposals on item 117 (d)	No advance documentation
Tuesday, 11 November	
3 p.m.	
Items 117 (b), (c) and (e). General discussion (continued)	
Wednesday, 12 November	
10 a.m.	
Items 117 (b), (c) and (e). General discussion (continued)	
Thursday, 13 November	
10 a.m. and 3 p.m.	
Items 117 (b), (c) and (e). General discussion (continued)	
1 p.m.	
Closure of list of speakers on items 117 (b), (c) and (e)	
Friday, 14 November	
10 a.m. and 3 p.m.	
Items 117 (b), (c) and (e). General discussion (continued)	

Programme	*Documentation*

Week of 17-21 November

Monday, 17 November

10 a.m.

Items 117 (b), (c) and (e). General discussion (concluded)

6 p.m.

Deadline for submission of draft proposals on items 117 (b), (c) and (e)

3 p.m.

Action on draft proposals

Tuesday, 18 November

10 a.m. and 3 p.m.

Action on draft proposals

Wednesday, 19 November

10 a.m. and 3 p.m.

Action on draft proposals

Thursday, 20 November

10 a.m. and 3 p.m.

Action on draft proposals

Friday, 21 November

10 a.m. and 3 p.m.

Action on outstanding draft proposals

Item 12. Report of the Economic and Social Council

Projected conclusion date of the work of the Third Committee